GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:183
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006
CENTRAL SCHEMES
Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to wind up certain ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any plan to merge certain schemes with other schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the manner in which Government proposes to ensure that the interests of the weaker sections of the society are not adversely affected in the process ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.#183 FOR ANSWER ON 3.03.2006 REGARDING CENTRAL SCHEMES.

(a) to (e): The decision to wind up/merge Centrally Sponsored Schemes is taken by the Planning Commission on the basis of: (a) Zero Based Budgeting (ZBB) exercise carried out before a Five Year Plan; and (b) interim rationalization of Plan Schemes during the course of the Plan period. These exercises are carried out in consultation with concerned Ministries /Departments.

The Planning Commission had undertaken a review of the existing Plan schemes and subjected them to Zero-based Budgeting, at the time of commencement of the Tenth Plan, retaining only those schemes in the Tenth Plan that were demonstrably essential. Subsequently, in 2004-05 the Planning Commission also carried out an exercise in consultation with the Union Ministries/Departments regarding transfer/rationalization/review of ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and communicated them to the Ministries/Departments.

An Expert Group has since been set up by the Planning Commission to develop proposals for restructuring and rationalisation of CSS, in pursuance of the decision taken in the 51st meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held on June, 27-28, 2005. The Planning Commission has also decided that a Zero Based Budgeting (ZBB) exercise will be carried out for carrying forward Plan Schemes into the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The purpose of such exercises is to enhance the utility and impact of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, keeping in view the welfare of weaker sections of society also.